

and not more than a reasonable rate of return on investment is provided to the owner. This waiver permits Tribal applicants to submit an application without these components and adopt such after the award. If awarded a grant under the Recovery Act program, submission of this documentation will become a grant condition. This waiver will ensure that an application for Recovery Act funds can be submitted promptly in response to a NOFA. All other analysis components remain required and must be submitted with the application and may not be waived. The components that must be submitted include the following: any grant amount provided will not substantially reduce the amount of non-Federal financial support for the activity; grant funds used for the project will be disbursed on a pro rate basis with amounts from other sources; and establishing the project is financially feasible and that it has a reasonable chance of success.

5. *24 CFR 1003.303; Project Rating.* The ICDBG regulation at 24 CFR 1003.303 requires each project in an ICDBG application to meet project threshold requirements and then be scored based on five specific rating factors. The rating factors are capacity, need/extent of the problem, soundness of the approach, leveraging of resources, and comprehensiveness and coordination. Recovery Act funds under the ICDBG program can only be awarded to recipients who received ICDBG funding in FY 2008. These recipients have already demonstrated the capacity to administer the grants. In recognition of strict funding obligations deadlines in the Recovery Act and the specific Recovery Act provisions for awarding funds, this section is waived so that the NOFA can be drafted to delete the applicant capacity factor in the ICDBG NOFA and include a new factor to address the requirements of the Recovery Act.

6. *24 CFR 1003.604; Citizen Participation Requirements.* The ICDBG regulations at 24 CFR 1003.604(a)(2) require applicants to consult with residents prior to submitting their funding applications. The consultation requirements have the potential to delay the ability of ICDBG recipients to expeditiously facilitate Recovery Act funds for housing and community development needs. Accordingly, this section is waived so that the Tribe will not have to hold one or more meetings to obtain the views of residents on community development and housing needs. Tribes will be required to meet the citizen participation requirements by publishing or posting information on their plans to use Recovery Act funds

and accepting comments. However, comments will not have to be submitted prior to the application deadline date. The Tribe will be required to certify in its application that information has been published or posted for residents of the community in order to meet the citizen participation requirement.

Dated: May 4, 2009.

Paula O. Blunt,

General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing.

[FR Doc. E9-12483 Filed 5-28-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-67-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

Agency Information Collection; Activities Under OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of renewal of a currently approved collection (OMB No. 1006-0029).

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation, we) has forwarded the following Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval: Rural Water Supply Act, OMB Control Number: 1006-0029. Title 43 CFR part 404 requires entities interested in participating in the Rural Water Supply Program (Rural Water Program) to submit information to allow Reclamation to evaluate and prioritize requests for financial or technical assistance.

DATES: OMB has up to 60 days to approve or disapprove this information collection, but may respond after 30 days; therefore, public comments must be received on or before June 29, 2009 to assure maximum consideration.

ADDRESSES: You may send written comments to the Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior at the Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, via facsimile to (202) 395-5806 or e-mail to OIRA_DOCKET@omb.eop.gov. A copy of your comments should also be directed to the Bureau of Reclamation, Attention: 84-52000, PO Box 25007, Denver, CO 80225.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Avra Morgan at: (303) 445-2906.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Reclamation Rural Water Supply Program, 43 CFR part 404.

OMB Control Number: 1006-0029.

Abstract: The purpose of the Rural Water Program is to provide assistance to small communities of 50,000 inhabitants or less, including tribes and tribal organizations, to plan the design and construction of projects to serve rural areas with industrial, municipal, and residential water. Specifically, Reclamation is authorized to provide financial and technical assistance to conduct appraisal investigations and feasibility studies for rural water supply projects. Reclamation's regulations (43 CFR part 404) establish criteria governing how the program will be implemented, including eligibility and prioritization criteria, and criteria to evaluate appraisal and feasibility studies.

Entities interested in participating in the Rural Water Program will be requested to submit information regarding proposed appraisal investigations and feasibility studies, to allow Reclamation to evaluate and prioritize requests for financial or technical assistance under the program. Reclamation will apply the program criteria to the information provided to determine whether the entity seeking assistance is eligible, whether the project is eligible for assistance, and to what extent the project meets Reclamation's prioritization criteria. Requests for assistance under the Rural Water Program will be made on a voluntary basis. There is no form associated with this information collection.

There are three different types of assistance that a project sponsor can request under the Rural Water Program, each of which requires different information to be submitted, as follows:

(1) *Review of a Completed Study.* To request Reclamation to review a completed appraisal investigation or feasibility study—which was not completed with assistance under the Rural Water Program, the entity making the request (the project sponsor) must submit a cover letter requesting Reclamation to commence the review. The cover letter must address the eligibility criteria set forth in §§ 404.6 and 404.7 of the regulations, and the prioritization criteria under § 404.13.

(2) *Assistance to Conduct an Appraisal Investigation.* To request technical or financial assistance to conduct an appraisal investigation, the project sponsor must submit a statement of interest in response to the program announcement, as explained in § 404.14. Reclamation will post a program announcement on www.grants.gov one time annually to provide notice to the public of the

opportunity to request assistance under the Rural Water Program. No form is required to be filled out in order to submit a statement of interest. The statement of interest will include information regarding the eligibility of the project sponsor to participate in the program, whether the proposed project meets the program eligibility requirements, and the extent to which the proposed project meets the prioritization criteria.

(3) *Assistance to Conduct a Feasibility Study.* To request technical or financial assistance to conduct a feasibility study, the project sponsor must have already completed an appraisal investigation. Since a statement of interest will have already been submitted, project sponsors seeking to conduct a feasibility study may simply complete a full proposal without having to complete another statement of interest. No form is required to be filled out in order to submit a full proposal. The full proposal will be used by Reclamation to determine whether the project sponsor is eligible to participate in the program, whether the proposed project meets the program eligibility requirements, the extent to which the proposed project meets the prioritization criteria, and to evaluate the proposal in general to determine whether it is reasonable and can be successful. The content of a full proposal will be described in detail in the program announcement and will typically include a detailed scope of work for the proposed study.

Frequency: Once annually, in response to the program announcement.

Respondents: States, tribes, municipalities, water districts, and other entities created under State law with water management authority.

Estimated Annual Total Number of Potential Respondents: 185.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.0.

Estimated Total Number of Annual Responses: 56.0.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 2,100 hours.

Comments

We invite your comments on:

(a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of our functions, including whether the information will have practical use;

(b) The accuracy of our burden estimate for the proposed collection of information;

(c) Ways to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(d) Ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on

respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. A 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published in the **Federal Register** (73 FR 67778, Nov. 17, 2008) in an interim final rule. No public comments were received.

Before including your address, telephone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment (including your personal identifying information) may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Roseann Gonzales,

Director, Policy and Program Services, Bureau of Reclamation.

[FR Doc. E9-12525 Filed 5-28-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MN-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NM-114438; AZA-35058; L51010000
ER0000 LVRWG09G0690]

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Possible Resource Management Plan Amendments for the SunZia Southwest Transmission Project in Arizona and New Mexico

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Intent.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), New Mexico State Office, announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and by this notice is announcing the beginning of the scoping process and soliciting input on identification of issues and proposed planning criteria in response to a right-of-way application filed by SunZia Transmission, LLC (SunZia).

DATES: Comments should be submitted no later than 45 days after publication of this Notice in the **Federal Register**. The BLM will announce public scoping meetings to identify relevant issues through local news media, newsletters, and the BLM Web site (see below) at least 15 days prior to each meeting. We

will provide additional opportunities for public participation upon publication of the Draft EIS, including a 90-day public comment period.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments or resource information by any of the following methods:

Web site: http://www.blm.gov/nm/st/en/prog/more/lands_realty.html.

E-Mail: NMSunZiaProject@blm.gov.

Mail: Bureau of Land Management, New Mexico State Office, SunZia Southwest Transmission Project, P.O. Box 27115, Santa Fe, NM 87502-0115.

Courier/Hand Delivery: Bureau of Land Management, SunZia Southwest Transmission Project, 1474 Rodeo Road, Santa Fe, NM 87505.

Documents pertinent to the right-of-way application may be examined at: Bureau of Land Management New Mexico State Office, Public Room, 1474 Rodeo Road, Santa Fe, NM 87505, Telephone (505) 438-7471.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: For further information and/or to have your name added to the mailing list, contact Adrian Garcia, SunZia Southwest Transmission BLM Project Manager, at the New Mexico State Office, P.O. Box 27115, Santa Fe, NM 87502-0115, or by e-mail at NMSunZiaProject@blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: SunZia has submitted a right-of-way application to construct, operate, and maintain two new single-circuit overhead 500 kilovolt (kV) transmission lines originating at a new substation in either Socorro County or Lincoln County in the vicinity of Bingham or Ancho, New Mexico, and terminating at the Pinal Central Substation in Pinal County near Coolidge, Arizona. The overall transmission line route would be approximately 460 miles in length, a substantial part of this length on BLM lands, and two separate transmission lines would be located on BLM, State, and private lands.

SunZia's proposal is to transport electricity generated by power generation resources, including primarily renewable resources, to western power markets and load centers. The SunZia project would enable the development of renewable energy resources, including wind, solar, and geothermal generation, by creating access to the interState power grid in the Southwest and providing increased transfer capacity. The proposed project would also increase power reliability across the southwestern United States, allow communities in southern Arizona and southern New Mexico to economically access energy generated from renewable sources, provide power